

State of South Dakota

NINETY-FIRST SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2016

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1017

Introduced by: Representatives Deutsch, Anderson, Bolin, Brunner, Campbell, Craig, Greenfield (Lana), Haggar (Don), Haugaard, Holmes, Klumb, Langer, Latterell, Marty, May, Munsterman, Peterson (Kent), Qualm, Rasmussen, Russell, Schoenbeck, Stevens, Tulson, Verchio, Werner, and Wiik and Senators Greenfield (Brock), Brown, Cammack, Curd, Ewing, Fiegen, Haggar (Jenna), Haverly, Heineman (Phyllis), Holien, Jensen (Phil), Monroe, Novstrup (David), Olson, Omdahl, Otten (Ernie), Peters, Rampelberg, Rusch, Shorma, Solano, Sutton, Tidemann, Tieszen, Van Gerpen, and White

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Commending the nation of Israel for its cordial and
2 mutually beneficial relationship with the United States and with the State of South Dakota.

3 WHEREAS, Israel has been granted her lands under and through the oldest recorded deed,
4 as recorded in the Old Testament scriptures held sacred and revered by Jews and Christians
5 alike, as presenting the acts and words of God; and

6 WHEREAS, the claim and presence of the Jewish people in Israel has remained constant
7 throughout the past four thousand years of history; and

8 WHEREAS, the legal basis for the establishment of the modern state of Israel was a binding
9 resolution under international law, which was unanimously adopted by the League of Nations
10 in 1922 and subsequently affirmed by both houses of the United States Congress; and

11 WHEREAS, this resolution affirmed the establishment of a national home for the Jewish
12 people in the historical region of the land of Israel, including the areas of Judea, Samaria, and



1 Jerusalem; and

2 WHEREAS, Article 80 of the United Nations Charter 22 recognized the continued validity
3 of the rights granted to states or peoples which already existed under international instruments,
4 and therefore the 1922 League of Nations resolution remains valid, and the six hundred fifty
5 thousand Jews currently residing in the areas of Judea, Samaria, and eastern Jerusalem reside
6 there legitimately; and

7 WHEREAS, Israel declared its independence and self-governance on May 14, 1948, with
8 the goal of reestablishing its God-given and legally recognized lands as a homeland for the
9 Jewish people; and

10 WHEREAS, the United States, having been the first country to recognize Israel as an
11 independent nation and as Israel's principal ally, has enjoyed a close and mutually beneficial
12 relationship with Israel and her people; and

13 WHEREAS, there are increasing incidents of anti-Semitism around the world, including
14 across the United States reflected in official hate crime statistics; and

15 WHEREAS, the international boycott, divestment, and sanctions movement is one of the
16 main vehicles for spreading anti-Semitism and advocating the elimination of the Jewish State;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, the dramatic increase in boycott, divestment, and sanctions campaign activities
19 on college campuses around the country has resulted in increased animosity and intimidation
20 against Jewish students, negatively impacting student programming related to the State of Israel
21 and politics in the Middle East; and

22 WHEREAS, leaders of the boycott, divestment, and sanctions movement say their goal is
23 to eliminate Israel as the home of the Jewish people; and

24 WHEREAS, messaging at anti-Israel rallies has adopted the boycott, divestment, and

1 sanctions slogan: "from the river to the sea Palestine will be free" which means that there would
2 be no Israel between the Jordan River and Mediterranean Sea and that the State of Israel will
3 cease to exist; and

4 WHEREAS, Israel is the greatest friend and ally of the United States in the Middle East and
5 the values of our two nations are so intertwined that it is impossible to separate one from the
6 other; and

7 WHEREAS, there are those in the Middle East who have continually sought to destroy
8 Israel, from the time of its inception as a state, and those same enemies of Israel also hate, and
9 seek to destroy, the United States; and

10 WHEREAS, the promise of the God of Israel, who is the God stated in our Constitution, is
11 that He will bless those who bless Israel, and be it known that the State of South Dakota openly
12 blesses Israel with gratitude for our cordial and mutually beneficial relations since 1948, a
13 friendship that continues to strengthen with each passing year:

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-
15 First Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature
16 commends Israel for its cordial and mutually beneficial relationship with the United States and
17 with the State of South Dakota, supports Israel in its legal, historical, moral, and God-given
18 right of self-governance and self-defense upon the entirety of its own lands, and recognizes that
19 Israel is neither an attacking force nor an occupier of the lands of others, and that peace can be
20 afforded the region only through a whole and united Israel; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the secretary of the House of Representatives prepare
22 copies of this resolution and forward them to the President of the United States, the speaker and
23 clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the president and secretary of the United
24 States Senate, and the Israeli Embassy in Washington D.C. for transmission to the proper

1 authorities in the State of Israel.